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# Citizens for Peace Activities and Accomplishments 2009

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## **Citizens for Peace Activities & Accomplishments 2009**

### **Monthly Membership Meetings: Second Tuesday of each Month: 7 – 9 pm at Unity of Livonia (Five Mile Rd. east of Middlebelt)**

Monthly meetings are advertised and open to the public. Each meeting has a program.

Dec. 8: Reflection on Haiti, presented by Kim Redigan.

Nov. 10: Sixth Anniversary Party.

Oct. 13: Viewed & discussed films on Global Oneness project.

Sept. 8: Viewed and discussed film about Afghanistan, "Day after Peace."

Aug. 11: Vegetarian potluck; Presentation & discussion on The World Peace Diet.

July 14: Viewed and discussed film, "Ambition to Meaning."

June 9: Report on National Department of Peace Conference in Washington, D.C. in March.

May 12: Talk on homelessness; Amy Lange, Fox 2 TV's investigative reporter.

Apr. 14: Celebration of The Season for Nonviolence; winners of essay contest read their essays; Linda Chomin, Observer's health and community life reporter spoke about the importance of good writing and how it can make a difference.

Mar. 10: Presentation on Nonviolence by Colleen Mills.

Feb. 10: "Sweet Surprises:" Kathy Bindu Henning gave lesson and explained benefits of meditation.

Jan. 13: "Peace Summit," implementation of the organization's strategic plan.

### **Speaking Engagements**

Oct. 18: Presentation "Practicing Peace;" Community Unitarian Universalist Church; Brighton.

Apr. 14: Presentation at AAUW Wyandotte Branch.

Mar. 28: 1:30 pm: Presentation at Voices for Tomorrow Youth Forum; Madonna University.

Mar. 26: 1:45 – 3:15 pm: Presentations at assembly and Peace Pole Dedication ceremony; Churchill High School, Livonia.

Mar. 10: 9 am – 12 noon: Presentation to two Plymouth High School classes on non-violence and the Department of Peace legislation.

Mar. 5; 7 pm: “Making Peace a Priority in Our Lives, Our Communities and Our World;” presentation at Peace Unity Church; Clarkston.

### **Special Events**

June 6: Members attended Detroit Area Peace with Justice Network (DAPJN) conference; University of Detroit.

Mar. 20 – 22: Members attended National Department of Peace Conference; Washington, D.C.

Mar. 21; 4:30 pm: Presentation by members, “Grow Baby Grow: Building and Sustaining Your Local Group” at the DOP Campaign National Conference, Washington, D.C.

Mar. 10 deadline: Essay contest open to high school and college students with cash awards; topic: “How do nonviolent practices reduce conflict and create pathways to peace?”

Jan. 10: 9 am – 4 pm: Participated online in Michigan Peace Network Conference via SKYPE.

### **Tabling**

This activity involves setting up a table at an event and passing out information and talking with people about the Department of Peace legislation. It gives us the opportunity to explain the concept of peace-making at the federal level of government.

Dec. 10: 6:30 – 9 pm: Celebration of 61<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of U.N. Declaration of Human Rights; Hope United Methodist Church, Southfield.

Dec. 6: 12 – 2 pm: Care & Share Fair; Brighton Education & Community Center

Nov. 14: 12:45 – 3:30 pm: Presentation by Juan Cole, professor, U. of M.:  
“Confronting the Taliban and Al-Qaeda; The Good War or American Quagmire?”  
First United Methodist Church; Royal Oak

Aug. 16: 2 – 5 pm: Michigan Peace Picnic; Muskegon

July 26: 10 am – 12 noon: Presentation on Department of Peace by Linda  
Henderson, State Coordinator; Unitarian Universalist Church, Farmington.

May 20: 6:30 – 8:30 pm: Forum on Gaza – West Bank; Hope United Methodist  
Church, Southfield, Mich.

Apr. 25; 8 am – 4 pm: Pax Christi Conference, Mary Grove College, Detroit.

Mar. 28; 10 am – 4 pm: Voices for Tomorrow Youth Forum at Madonna  
University.

### **Restorative Practices:**

On November 8, 2007 School Administrators, counselors and teachers were invited to a seminar to learn about changing the culture of schools to create a healthy community for learning. Based on restorative justice it is a method of discipline resulting in building a sense of community and reducing conflict and violence in schools. Since that time Wayne RESA (Regional Educational Service Agency) has held workshops to train educators. Beginning in Sept. 2008, Hamtramck School System adopted this method for all their schools. The workshops continue with Citizens for Peace members helping to notify educators and attending the sessions.

Oct. 14 & 15: 8:30 am – 3:30 pm. Members attended training on facilitating Conferencing; Wayne RESA

Apr. 23: 8:30 am – 3:30 pm Members attended training on facilitating peace making circles; Wayne RESA

### **Peace Collection**

Fifty eight titles were added to the Peace Collection

### **Human Rights Film Festival**

This film series is co-sponsored with Michigan Coalition for Human Rights (MCHR) and Madonna University in Livonia. This is a way to engage people to think about peace with justice and care of the earth. After each movie, there is a person with expertise in the subject to lead a discussion and answer questions.

### Fall Series

Oct. 9: "Unnatural Causes: How Inequality can make you Sick"  
Oct. 16: "American Dream, American Nightmare"  
Oct. 23: "The Golden Venture"  
Oct. 30: "Rethink Afghanistan"

### Spring Series

Apr. 3: "Made in LA"  
Mar. 27: "Traces of the Trade: A Story of the Deep North"  
Mar. 20: "Soldiers of Conscience"  
Mar. 13: "Health for Sale"

### **Working with Other Organizations**

There are many organizations working for a more peaceful world. By working together we hope to develop a broad base of support of people who can use their influence to help change policies of our federal government. These events give us another opportunity to have a table with informational materials about our organization and the Dept. of Peace legislation.

Aug. 6: Co-sponsored annual commemoration of Hiroshima & Nagasaki with presentation "Proliferation and Pollution: Costs and Consequences," by Paul Gunter; First Baptist Church; Birmingham.

Co-sponsored One Peace events:

Aug. 17: 7 – 9 pm: Showing of film, "One," with presentation by Diane & Ward Powers on how they made the film.

Sept. 17: 7:30 – 9:30 pm: Concert – local musicians performed; Unity of Livonia

Sept. 19: 1 – 4 pm: Celebrated the UN International Day of Peace with meditation, music and poetry; presentation by Dr. Sharif Abdullah, "A World for All: Tools for Inclusivity;" Schoolcraft College, Livonia.

June 4: 6 – 11 pm: Members worked the phone bank for PBS channel 56 fundraiser.

Representatives attend monthly meetings of the DAPJN, Detroit Area Peace with Justice Network.

### **Fund Raising Events**

Nov. 14: Parisian Community Day; fundraiser for Citizens for Peace Education Fund.

Nov. 10: Silent auction at Unity of Livonia; fundraiser for Citizens for Peace.

Sept. 12: 10 am – 12:30 pm: Annual Walk for Peace; Royal Oak; fundraiser for The Peace Alliance.

June 4: 6 – 11 pm Members worked phone bank for PBS Channel 56 for their fundraiser.

Apr. 8: Max & Erma's Restaurant; with coupon, percentage of bill went to Citizens for Peace Education Fund.

### **Contact with Congressmen and Senators**

May 5: Met with Congressman McCotter's aid and gave packet information on Citizens for Peace and Dept. of Peace legislation.

Mar. 22: Members attending the national conference in Washington, D.C. lobbied Michigan Congressman and Senators.

### **Media Coverage**

#### Observer Eccentric Newspapers:

"Community Calendar" announced our monthly meetings

Oct. 4: "Peace organization Presents Film Series" gave detailed coverage about the Fall Film Series

Apr. 19: "Local Students Give Peace a Chance." This article covered the awards ceremony where high school and college students read their prize winning essays and received their cash awards.

March 15: "Films Focus on Peace" This article gave detailed coverage about the Spring Film Series

### **Publication**

Michigan Department of Peace Campaign; Political Action Guide 2009 – 2010.